BDCP Conveyance Working Group
Draft Purpose and Scope Statement

Purpose:

The purpose of the BDCP Conveyance Working Group is to:

(1) **Overall Purpose.** Develop, analyze, and recommend proposed actions related to conveyance systems and their operations for consideration by the Steering Committee.

(2) **Long-Term Facilities[1].** Review and comment on the draft preliminary plans for actions developed by the PREs or others on proposed Conveyance System actions with new points of diversion to move water from North of the Delta to South of the Delta as set forth in the November 2007 Points of Agreement of BDCP.

(3) **Long-Term Water Operations.** Develop criteria for water project operations, ecosystem restoration and species conservation[2] under the proposed Conveyance System in consultation with the other working groups and technical teams that incorporate hydrodynamic and water quality conditions necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of BDCP.

(4) **Near-Term Facilities.** Review and comment on preliminary plans developed by the PREs or others on early implementation activities and actions that could take place between the time the BDCP is approved and the construction and operation of the proposed Conveyance System in (1) above.

(5) **Near-Term Water Operations.** Develop criteria for water project operations, ecosystem protection/restoration and species conservation related to early implementation activities in consultation with the other working groups and technical teams that incorporate hydrodynamic and water quality conditions necessary to achieve the early implementation goals and objectives of the BDCP.

[1] "Long-term" refers to the period following completion of all new conveyance infrastructure (both around- and in-Delta); "Near-term" refers to the period between the approval/permitting of the final BDCP and completion of all new conveyance facilities; "Interim" refers to the period between the signing of the Planning Agreement (October 2006) and the approval/permitting of the final BDCP.

[2] Criteria for water project operation related to conveyance for the BDCP are criteria for the operations of the SWP and CVP which, along with other conservation actions, would provide for the conservation of covered species and the ecological processes that support these species. Other criteria exist in the Delta for the protection of other beneficial uses that affect the operations of the SWP and CVP (e.g., SWRCB water quality standards). While BDCP may suggest modification to these other criteria for modeling purposes, such modifications are outside the purview of BDCP.

Key Linkages:

The Conveyance Working Group will maintain close coordination with the Water Quality and Biological Goals and Objectives Working Groups and the Analytical Tools, Habitat Restoration Program, and Other Conservation Actions Technical Teams.

Conveyance Working Group Technical Teams:

To facilitate technical review and input to the Working Group, the Conveyance Working Group may establish, as needed, technical teams of experts from the participating members and consulting staff. Technical teams anticipated be formed are:

- **Habitat and Operations Technical Team (HOTT) –** This team would include technical staff from both the Conveyance Working Group and the Habitat Restoration Technical Team. The HOTT would be charged with identifying hydrodynamic conditions related to the physical habitat restoration proposed by the Habitat Restoration Program Technical Team. The HOTT would present to the Conveyance Working Group for further study proposed approaches to achieving desired hydrodynamic conditions related to new habitat restoration projects or groups of projects to enhance covered species conservation.
- **Model Assumptions Technical Team** - The Model Assumptions Technical Team would review model assumptions with DWR and SAIC modelers and provide recommendations to the Working Group related to these assumptions, and may during the course of those reviews provide additional recommendations on appropriate assumptions for modeling purposes.
- **Fish Facilities Technical Team** – This team would be charged with reviewing and evaluating approaches to screening of new (and possibly existing) diversion facilities.

Tasks:

(1) **Consider proposed physical changes for new diversion and conveyance location**. The PRE's and others will develop the initial proposed alternative locations for North Delta diversion points and recommend to the Working Group diversion point(s) to carry forward in the evaluation. The fishery agencies and others may also participate actively in reviewing and providing advice on these topics. The PRE's and others will also develop the initial proposed configuration(s) (such as location and sizing) for conveyance around the Delta as part of the Long-Term Dual Conveyance for subsequent review and comment by the Working Group. The Working Group will then identify a conceptual conveyance configuration(s) to allow initial operation studies to begin to test possible operating criteria. This task will include consideration by the Fish Facilities Technical Team of approaches to new screening facilities at a North Delta diversion.

(2) **Consider proposed physical changes for existing SWP and CVP diversions**. The PRE's and others will develop a proposed configuration related to the existing SWP and CVP diversions in the Southern Delta as part of the Long-Term Dual Conveyance system for review and comment by the Working Group. The

Working Group will identify a conceptual configuration to allow initial operation studies to begin to test possible operating criteria.

(3) **Review model assumptions**. The Model Assumptions Technical Team will review modeling assumptions with DWR and SAIC modelers and provide recommendations to the Working Group related to these assumptions. In so doing, the Technical Team will address explicitly the modeling assumptions that may be appropriate to incorporate into the modeling work to project a reasonable range of future water demand scenarios consistent with the BDCP Planning Agreement planning goals. A recommendation or range of recommendations will be made to the Working Group on these assumptions to allow for further study and evaluation by the Working Group.

(4) **Develop range of operating criteria for evaluation**. The Working Group or designated technical team will develop a range of operating criteria to address the hydrodynamic and ecological conditions important to the conservation of pelagic habitat and other habitats beneficial to BDCP covered species and important to the reduction of stressors on covered species. The Team will review the operating criteria used in the SAIC Options Evaluation (dated September 17, 2007) related to both Isolated Conveyance (Option 4) and Dual Conveyance (Option 3) and start with relevant operating criteria from that document. The Working Group or designated technical team will work with DWR and SAIC to recommend changes to models, assumptions, and operations and perform additional modeling (including screening-level models) as may be needed to understand the implications of these operating criteria (e.g., more detailed water quality analyses, hydrologic effects, etc.). Based on these modeling results, the Working Group or designated technical team will work with DWR and SAIC to conduct a sensitivity analysis by developing revised operating criteria to understand the sensitivity of the system to various changes in operating criteria for both biological responses and water supply and water supply reliability. The Working Group will develop a recommended range of operating criteria for dual conveyance. This range of operating criteria will be consistent with the BDCP biological goals and objectives and planning goals and recognizing the scientific uncertainty in the understanding of hydrodynamic effects on species and their habitats.

(5) **Conduct new model runs with revised ranges of criteria and assumptions.** DWR and SAIC will further evaluate the operating criteria and assumptions provided by the Technical Teams and conduct new modeling runs on dual conveyance to understand the effects on covered species, ecosystem processes and water supply. The timing and number of modeling analyses conducted will be dependent on several factors including: relevance and necessity for understanding the effects of operations proposed; schedule for completion of the draft Conservation Plan; and costs involved in conducting such analyses. The results of these analyses will be presented to the Working Group for review and comment in an iterative process.

(6) **Make recommendations to the Steering Committee on Long-Term Dual Conveyance Implementation**. The Working Group will provide to the Steering Committee recommendations for long-term BDCP implementation regarding new facilities to support both through and around the Delta conveyance and operating criteria for those facilities.

(7) **Evaluate operating criteria and assumptions for Near-Term Implementation.** Once proposed Long-Term Dual Conveyance operating criteria and assumptions have been developed, the Working Group would conduct an evaluation of Near-Term BDCP implementation measures (both physical and operational) related to in-Delta conveyance and diversion prior to completion of a proposed Dual Conveyance system. These Near-Term actions are conveyance measures that can be put in place between the time the BDCP is approved and the proposed Dual Conveyance system is operational to address the hydrodynamic and ecological conditions important to the conservation of pelagic habitat and other habitats beneficial to BDCP covered species and important to the reduction of stressors on covered species. Near-Term conveyance measures may be a set of staged actions and operating criteria for each stage. In the development of Near-Term operating criteria, the Working Group will, to the extent possible, take into consideration information from the 2008 OCAP Section 7 Consultation. The Working Group may task the Operating Criteria Technical Team to develop Near-Term measures for Group review. SAIC will conduct modeling evaluations of the Near-Term operating criteria provided by the Working Group to understand the potential effects on covered species, ecosystem processes, and water supply. The results of these evaluations will be presented to the Working Group for review and comment in an iterative process. The Working Group will provide recommendations to the Steering Committee regarding the approach to conveyance during the Near-Term BDCP implementation.

Time Frame:

The Working Group needs to complete all its tasks by June 30, 2008 in order to obtain Steering Committee approval for full evaluation by July 31, 2008. The Working Group will develop a schedule for its tasks and may bring products to the Steering Committee as these products are developed.

Conveyance Working Group - Schedule						
TASK	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
1. Consider proposed physical changes for new diversion and conveyance location						
2. Consider proposed physical changes for existing SWP and CVP diversions						
3. Review model assumptions						
4. Develop range of operating criteria for evaluation						
5. Conduct new model runs with revised ranges of criteria and assumptions.						
6. Make recommendations to the Steering Committee on Long-Term Dual Conveyance						
7. Evaluate operating criteria and assumptions for Near-Term Implementation						